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Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management
Second session
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Item 7 of the provisional agenda*
Development of a knowledge base for geospatial information

Development of a knowledge base for geospatial information

Report of the Secretary-General

The present paper is a summary of the report containing a proposal for the development of a knowledge base for geospatial information to be located at the United Nations.[1] The report provides the context for the proposal and indicates that a key function of the Committee is to compile and disseminate the best practices of national, regional and international bodies on issues related to geospatial information management, in particular in respect of institutional arrangements, technical processes and the establishment of spatial data infrastructure. Member States have identified the issue as a priority for discussion.

The report considers the creation of a searchable and continuously updated repository, to be built on the existing resources of the website of the United Nations Initiative on Global Geospatial Information Management, which is maintained by the Statistics Division secretariat and provides information on current practices in managing geospatial information around the world. In addition, the report describes the contents of the knowledge base, illustrated by examples of geospatial infrastructure initiatives at the national, regional and global levels, and ways in which the contents will be structured. The Committee is invited to express its views on the development of a knowledge base for geospatial information.

* E/C.20/2012/1.

[1] The full report is available in the language of submission only from http://ggim.un.org/ggim_committee.html.

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Study on the status of mapping in the world

Study on the status of mapping in the world

Report of the Secretary-General

This present paper summarizes a preliminary progress report[1] of the study on the status of mapping in the world, conducted by the United Nations pursuant to resolution 3 of the ninth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for the Americas, held in New York in 2009. The survey-based study was carried out with the support of the International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing and involved all national geospatial information authorities in the world. The report sets out the main content of the questionnaire, the status of the responses and the timeline for the completion of data analysis and dissemination. The information collected will eventually be used to develop country profiles, good practices and lessons learned in the dissemination and use of geospatial data. The Committee is invited to take note of the report and to express its views on the study and on possible options for reporting on the status of mapping in the world.

* E/C.20/2012/1.

[1] The report is available in the language of submission only from http://ggim.un.org/ggim_committee.html.

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